

**Natural Resources Conservation Service**

**Application Ranking Summary**

**SE Area Specialty Crop**

<b>Program:</b>	<b>Ranking Date:</b>	<b>Application Number:</b>
<b>Ranking Tool:</b> SE Area Specialty Crop		<b>Applicant:</b>
<b>Final Ranking Score:</b>		<b>Address:</b>
<b>Planner:</b>		<b>Telephone:</b>
<b>Farm Location:</b>		

**National Priorities Addressed**

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d, etc.)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer implement conservation practices which:	
3. a. Decrease aquifer overdraft?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean Air: Treatment of air quality from agricultural sources - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
4. a. Meet on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Reduce on-farm generated green house gases such as CO <sub>2</sub> (Carbon Dioxide), CH <sub>4</sub> (Methane), and N <sub>2</sub> O (Nitrous Oxide)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health: Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Improve soil tilth, organic matter, structure, health, etc.?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
6. a. Benefit on-farm habitat associated with threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Help retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project assist the producer implement practices which:	

7. a. Help manage or control noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. f. Apply principles of adaptive nutrient management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practices which:	
8. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with practices and improvements identified in an approved energy audit equivalent to criteria required in Ag EMP (122,124)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
9. a. Implementation of all conservation practices scheduled in the contract on the CPA-1155 within three years of date of obligation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. c. Implementation of practice(s) which will complete an existing conservation system or suite of practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

#### State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other state level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Water Quality and Soil Health for Improved Water Quality- (Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Surface Water, Harmful Levels of Nutrients and Organics, and/or Pathogens, and/or Pesticides in Groundwater). This resource concern will be addressed by implementation of practice(s) included in this application.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Soil Erosion and Soil Health/Sustainability (Sheet, rill, wind, classic gully, ephemeral, streambank) – This resource concern will be addressed by implementation of practice(s) included in this application.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Will the implementation of the practice(s) in this application address the control of noxious or invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. The applicant is only applying in one fund pool for the general EQIP sign-up. Those with an application in the Beginning Farmer or Socially Disadvantaged fund pools may also have an application in one land use fund pool and receive these points.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

#### Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other local level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will the resource concern of excessive pesticides, nutrients and organics in groundwater be addressed through the implementation of practices contained within this application? (90 pts) One of the practices in this application must have a CPPE of at least +2 for Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Groundwater AND soils present must be identified in WI Conservation Planning Tech Note 1 in order to receive points for this question. Soil borings may be done to document need if soils in WI Conservation Planning Tech Note 1 are not present but the area has known limitations. Areas with severe limitations need to be located within the manure application footprint of practices in the application.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will the resource concern of excessive pesticides, nutrients and organics in surface water in a SWQMA be addressed through the implementation of practices contained within this application? (75 pts) USE 590 SWQMA DEFINITION- The area within 1000 feet from ordinary high-water mark of navigable waters that consist of a lake, pond or flowage, except that, for a navigable water that is a glacial pothole lake, "surface	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

water quality management area” means 1,000 feet from the high-water mark of the lake for streams it includes the area within 300 feet from the ordinary high water. Include perennial and Intermittent streams ONLY if the intermittent joins a perennial stream within 300’ or is a direct conduit to groundwater within 300’ from the site. If streams do not show on topographic map document onsite evaluation and include photos and notes in the file. Practice must have a CPPE score of at least +3 for excessive nutrients and organics in surface water.	
4. Will the resource concern of (water quantity) inefficient water use on irrigated land be addressed through the implementation of practices contained within this application? (75 pts) Answer “YES” if the CPPE score Water Quantity, Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land is +3 or greater for practices contained in the application	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. 4. Is a pest management plan currently being followed OR will a pest management plan be developed as a result of this application a. And the application is for a cranberry operation? (25 pts) If a pest management plan is currently being followed it must meet NRCS 595 Standards or 595 must be included in the application to answer yes to this question.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. 4. Is a pest management plan currently being followed OR will a pest management plan be developed as a result of this application b. And the application is for any specialty crop other than cranberries? (100 pts) If a pest management plan is currently being followed it must meet NRCS 595 Standards or 595 must be included in the application to answer yes to this question.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Will the practices contained within this application lead to the development or improvement of pollinator habitat? (60 pts) Application must include Conservation Cover (327), Field Border (386), or Tree/Shrub Establishment (612) with an approved pollinator seeding/planting mix. Pollinator mixes included in the 2011 WI EQIP cookbook are automatically approved.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

**Land Use:**

Resource Concerns	Practices
-------------------	-----------

**Ranking Score**

Efficiency:  Local Issues:  State Issues:  National Issues:  <b>Final Ranking Score:</b>
--

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

<b>NRCS Representative:</b>	<b>Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:</b>
<b>Signature Date:</b>	<b>Signature Date:</b>